



**Travis County Emergency Management
Austin Homeland Security and Emergency Management**

November 13, 2012

USEPA to Conduct Aerial Survey over Austin and Circuit of the Americas Track

Tomorrow, November 14, and this weekend, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) is scheduled to conduct chemical and radiological aerial surveys over downtown Austin and the Circuit of the Americas racetrack at the request of the City of Austin and Travis County.

A USEPA aircraft will fly above the area and conduct environmental monitoring designed to ensure safe air quality before and during various events associated with the Formula One race. The environmental data gathered from these aerial surveys will be used for preparedness activities associated with the race.

Tomorrow's aerial surveys downtown and at the racetrack and those conducted in the early morning hours of November 16, 17 and 18 at the track will be noticeable by the public. The aircraft is an Aero Command 680 and is clearly marked with "U.S. EPA" on both wings.

The aircraft will fly over the survey area in a series of straight lines at 500 feet and 2,800 feet above ground level. The aircraft will fly slowly at about 115 mph. The public may see and hear the aircraft at the 500 foot level but will likely not notice anything at the 2,800 foot level. Each survey should take about 30 minutes to an hour to complete.

The USEPA has contacted and obtained clearances from the Federal Aviation Administration and the State of Texas. For additional information on the USEPA aircraft, go to www.epaosc.org/aspect.

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